

Top Secret



DIRECTORATE OF
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DOS, FBI reviews completed

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11 October 1969

Central Intelligence Bulletin

CONTENTS

USSR-SALT: Brezhnev has expressed pessimism about the prospect for early agreement. (Page 1)

25X1

25X1

25X1

Jordan: Security measures (Page 9)

25X1

Brazil: Terrorist threats (Page 9)

25X1

USSR-SALT: Soviet party chief Brezhnev has expressed pessimism about the prospect for early agreement on strategic arms limitation.

Brezhnev told US party chief Gus Hall, who was in Moscow last month, that such an agreement, although important, would be difficult to achieve and suggested that the US also show interest in lesser issues such as trade and European security. He alleged this could pave the way for later agreement on arms. Brezhnev emphasized, however, that he was not saying an agreement could not be reached, merely that the US was wrong to make SALT the "core" of all outstanding issues with Moscow. It is not surprising that Brezhnev would emphasize outstanding differences between the US and the USSR when talking to Hall.

The Soviet delay in approving the start of SALT may be attributable to several reasons, among them the state of Sino-Soviet relations. The rumored appointment of First Deputy Foreign Minister Kuznetsov to lead the border talks in Peking is a measure of the attention Moscow is giving this subject. Speculation that Kuznetsov will be given that assignment raises the question whether this may further delay the beginning of SALT, since he has been mentioned also as the likely chief of the Soviet team for arms discussions. It seems likely, however, that Moscow would stall such discussions for that reason alone.

25X1

11 Oct 69

Central Intelligence Bulletin

1

25X1

Next 6 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Jordan: [In the wake of an alleged coup attempt this week, King Husayn has reportedly decided to adopt more stringent internal security measures, particularly with regard to fedayeen activities. Over the past few days, the US Embassy has observed that the government has adopted a rigorous check-point policy.]

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Brazil: [During the past three days, local radio stations and US installations in Brasilia have received numerous calls threatening US personnel. One call warned that the embassy's principal officer might be kidnaped; another claimed that his life is in danger. The kidnapers of Ambassador Elbrick had close ties to dissident Communist Carlos Marighella, and his supporters may have decided to undertake similarly spectacular operations in Brasilia.]

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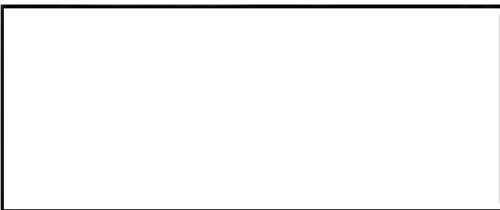
11 Oct 69

Central Intelligence Bulletin

9

25X1

Top Secret



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